

Sinclair Broadcasting should not be allowed to commandeer the public airwaves to air what amounts to a heavily slanted anti-Kerry political commercial. Sadly, media consolidation is making this kind of abuse increasingly easy for big corporations. The FCC needs to protect the open flow of information that is so critical to our democracy.

When the "many voices" of smaller, local media are squelched in buyouts by giant media conglomerates, the public are the poorer for it. Sinclair is using public airwaves free of charge. And instead using them for the good of the public debate, they are using them to politically bolster their own bottom line.

The FCC needs to work now to strengthen regulations and restrictions on media buyouts, and put an end to such obvious abuses as Sinclair Broadcasting is about to commit. A strong message from the FCC here will give us all some comfort that government agencies are not up for sale to the biggest media roller.